

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding representation of judges belonging to SC/ST category in higher judiciary-laid.

SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA (AMALAPURAM): Welfare of weaker Sections of the Society is one of the biggest pillars of ensuring social Justice. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has been dedicated to the cause of Welfare of weaker sections and their representation and has passed various legislations for the same, such as 35 percent reservation for students from BC, SC, ST and minorities in private universities.

While the Central Government is doing its best to ensure equitable representation, there is one institution that needs urgent reformation. The higher judiciary's statistics of representation points out the need for immediate step in favour of diversity and minority representation. The data shows that since 1950, there have been only five judges at the supreme Court from the Scheduled Castes (SCs). The National Commission for Scheduled Castes, in its 2016 report on 'Reservation in Judiciary ' states that as of 2001 ,there were only 24 judges belonging to SC/ST against a total of 850 judges in all the 21 High Courts. Moreover, 14 out of the 21 High Courts did not have a single SC/ST judge. Thus, it is my humble request that this issue be immediately corrected via legislation.